

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application with the following list of claims. Applicant submits below a complete listing of the current claims, with insertions indicated by underlining and deletions indicated by strikeouts.

1. (Currently Amended) A system for helping a user select among program options, comprising:
 - a first device programmed to accept information from the user on programming preferences;
 - a ~~database data repository~~ which accepts and stores ~~the user's~~ programming preferences information from the first device;
 - a server which combines programming preferences information from the ~~database data repository~~ with listings information and formats that listings information for presentation to the user based on the user's programming preferences information; and
 - a second device which accepts the formatted listings information from the server and presents it to the user.
2. (Original) The system of claim 1 where there are at least two first devices.
3. (Original) The system of claim 1 where the first device is the same as the second device.
4. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 1 where the second device does not run on the same device as the server.
5. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 1 where the first device and second device communicate with the server over a wide area network.

6. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 where the formatted listings information is presented in the form of a user preference grid, wherein a program on one channel may appear in the grid in a different row and / or column from another program on the same channel.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of presenting program listings information in a two dimensional grid, the method comprising the steps of:

 creating a two dimensional grid where one axis represents the time slots in which programs are available and a second axis represents a suggested preference order of the programs in each time slot, wherein a program on a channel may be listed at a different location on the second axis from another program on the same channel in a different time slot; and

 displaying the grid to a user.

8. (Currently Amended) A computer user interface computer-readable medium comprising executable instructions for presenting programming listings information, said computer-executable instructions comprising:

 instructions for creating a two dimensional grid where one axis represents the time slots in which programs are available and a second axis represents a suggested preference order of the programs in each time slot, wherein a program on a channel may be listed at a different location on the second axis from another program on the same channel in a different time slot; and

 instructions for displaying the grid to a user.

9. (Currently Amended) The computer user interface computer-readable medium of claim 8 wherein the suggested preference order is determined, at least in part, based on personal preference information.

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer user interface~~ computer-readable medium of claim 8 wherein the computer-executable instructions further ~~comprising~~ comprise instructions to select a program and have all conflicting program options eliminated from the grid.

11. (Currently Amended) A system for displaying information comprising a displayed time-by-suggested preference program grid, wherein a program on a channel may be listed at a different column and / or row on the grid from another program on the same channel.

12. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium ~~data structure~~ programmed to represent a time-by-suggested preference program grid, wherein a program on a channel may be listed at a different column and row on the grid from another program on the same channel.

13. (Currently Amended) A devicee An apparatus for displaying a program grid to a user, the devicee apparatus programmed to:

receive program preference information; and
output instructions for display of a grid of programs with time as a first axis and suggested preference as a second axis, wherein a program on a channel may be listed at a different location on the second axis from another program on the same channel.

14. (Currently Amended) The devicee apparatus of claim 12 or 13 further programmed to:

receive information on available programs; and
generate the instructions for display of the grid from the program preference information and the information on available programs.

15. (Currently Amended) The devicee apparatus of claim 12 ~~or~~ 13 or 14 wherein the program preference information is received from a user.

16. (Currently Amended) The devicee apparatus of claim 12 ~~or~~ 13 or 14 wherein the program preference information is received from a server.

17. (Currently Amended) A server computer for generating program preference information, the server computer programmed to:

send and receive program preference information;

send and receive information on available programs; and

generate and send data sufficient to create a grid of programs with time as a first axis and suggested preference as a second axis, wherein a program on a channel may be listed at a different location on the second axis from another program on the same channel.